

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL
APD AREA 13
AUGUST 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Betty Kay Clements, Michael Payne, Shawn Mims, Karen Huscher, Don Taylor, Eileen Reidy,

MEMBERS ON PHONE: Anna Brynild

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tina Renwick, Caryn Jones, Isabel S deMartinez, Sandy Dayton, Sandy Shorey, Phyllis Novak,

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Stephanie Hopper, Virginia Taylor,

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Caroline Short,

APD STAFF: Brenda Stevens, Carmelo Abisso

VISITORS: John and Joan Verity-family, Scott Greiner-Provider, Grant Harris-caregiver

In the absence of Chairperson Isabel Martinez, and the resignation of Sandy Dayton, Vice Chairperson, Isabel asked Betty Kay to facilitate this meeting. Betty Kay welcomed everyone, noting that some members have chosen to not reapply for reappointment to the FCC. Phyllis Novak will be working and Sandy Dayton has taken on commitments that will interfere with attendance at FCC meetings. Phone calls have been made to Caryn Jones and Tina Renwick as they have not attended 3 or more meetings. A letter will be sent if no response this week. Members and Visitors introduced themselves.

MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL:

Review of June 13, 2011 minutes, with a motion to accept as written by Eileen, and seconded by Michael Payne. Shawn Mims name was listed as present but was absent. Minutes corrected and corrected minutes approved by consensus.

BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW:

Paul Abisso, APD, reported that there was no activity for the month of July, 2011. State allotments have not been posted yet. The June 30, 2011 financial statements were handed out and will be a guide to the new year expenditure plans. A final YTD Financial Statement will be out by the next FCC meeting. If printer had been purchased in June, there would have been a deficit of \$351.20. Since it was not purchased, there was a surplus of \$145.00. This does not carry over to the current year. The printer has not been ordered, but with FCC approval it will be done now in the new fiscal year.

AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE:

In the absence of Clarence Lewis, Area 13 Administrator, there were no local or Central office updates.

FCCF REPORT and DISCUSSION:

4% Provider rates and companion changes have been made. Minimum Wage not an issue, APD has said. Some concern has been expressed about Access to service, for those who need a 1-1 companion. That is part of the Waiver language, so could be an issue explored by some. There is still a large deficit looming as the year goes on, so there will be other changes. The small workgroup with APD and the Governor's office explored a vast variety of issues without consensus. Mike Hansen, the new APD Director, was part of the Workgroup. It is important that he works closely with Family Care Councils.

The current implementation of the iBudget planned will be using current cost plan. That is only while APD is redoing actuaries. When that occurs iBudget algorithms will be reassigned. Cost plan freeze and Crisis cases a concern for many. Stephanie Hopper is working with a family with significant events regarding Behaviors, and APD denies crisis appeal. Stephanie suggested contact to Disability Rights as an alternative. Families need to know that is an alternative available to them. Anna also related a case that went up to the Governor. These examples point to the scrutiny of Crisis and the expense the concern for costs that will be entailed as a result of placement at an Intensive Behavior (IB) home or Carleton Palms, for example.

TRAVEL VOUCHER TRAINING:

Rescheduled to another time, Betty Kay will continue preparing the forms, but will assist others who would do their own.

REVIEW OF BYLAWS:

Will be rescheduled at request of Chairperson. Isabel would like to have Bylaws revisited to evaluate effect on outreach efforts. Karen stated that they are based on Statutes. They do not dictate on times, etc.. She suggested that FCC could have standing rules that do not need change to Bylaws. She reminded that Bylaws need to be reviewed, changes made if any, and then cannot be voted on until the next meeting of the FCC.

APD WAITLIST & FCC FORUM:

Eileen Reidy, Forum committee Chair, reported on progress to date: Hernando APD Waitlist/FCC Forum to be held on Saturday, 10-22-2011 at The Arc Nature Coast's new education center and hurricane shelter in Spring Hill. The Arc has waived rental. Eileen will discuss with Nancy Stubbs, Arc, about paying for maintenance assist as indicated. Should there be a hurricane that weekend, event would be cancelled. APD would require that as well, so that is not an issue. After much discussion of members, it was decided to change from a Forum format to that of an Expo of resources and information. There will be no charge for exhibitors, and refreshments will be coffee and doughnuts/bagels. Discussion of monies handled by FCC members was discussed and it will be a topic for a future time. It was decided that a 3 hour event might assist not having lunch. Time for event tentatively set for

10am-1pm. A donation was made by a FCC member of \$100 toward refreshments. Visitor, Joan Verity, suggested that some clubs and churches might consider donating and serving for an event of this nature. Anna said she would make some queries of places like Olive Garden etc. It was determined that food not be made an issue affecting the event, as it is about getting the information to individuals and their families.

Eileen will get the table sizes and number available to determine # of exhibitors. She suggested there may be a need to get more tables than are available at the facility. APD (Elizabeth Watson) to get Mailing List as soon as possible. APD also has the provider information for sending out an email regarding opportunity to exhibit. Discussion of desired exhibitors, and Hernando local resources included: Social Security, Medicaid eligibility, Guardianship, Guardian Advocacy, Transitioning, APD updating or enrollment availability, Vocational Rehabilitation and others. Isabel is reaching out to have the VSA Florida State Organization on Arts and Disabilities presented at CAFE this year for the Forum. Planning will continue.

Should need arise, a conference call can be made prior to the next meeting to ensure that preparations continue and are kept on schedule.

MEMBERS/VISITORS:

Stephanie has started a support group at the Key Center. She will have monthly speakers and topics. She shared a list of Agencies, Services and Contacts. There was an expo at Crest recently. She reported that the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) office is being closed in Citrus County. They have rec'd offers for several Citrus County sites, but for now will be in Ocala. Someone will be assigned to visit Citrus. Members discussed need to have information such as this for every Area, with a list of their County resources. Shawn was asked to bring info on the group he belongs to in Marion County. Anna will share list of support groups across the Area that she has.

BK shared that Isabel has taken a full time position. She will be here in October or November. She is wanting ideas on outreach to those who cannot make regularly scheduled FCC meetings. She has explored the sharing of information, in local areas, to be brought back to FCC meetings, where business is done. She would like consideration of possible changes and/or ideas regarding meeting schedules etc., to facilitate outreach for new members. Much discussion ensued, as many changes in time and locale to the regularly scheduled meetings, now being held, would result in some members leaving the FCC. The issue was understood however, and ideas shared. Younger families pose a challenge for participation on FCC. Many reasons exist such as work, tied up with children in school, medical appts., activities that interfere. Anna pointed out that their plate is full. Stephanie gave an example. There was an effort to bring young families to an event and there were 251 invitations sent, and 2 showed up. Members decided that a variety of outreach measures need to be employed to get families as involved as they can be.

Anna suggested Webinars, with focus group topics, social networking etc. for outreach. Anna agreed to work on a Webinar as a trial. Some research will be done with APD legal department to explore methods of communication within the Sunshine law of Florida. This

would particularly impact meetings held by a FCC member or members in outreach meetings. Several questions arose on mileage reimbursement for regular as well as outreach meetings, with no resolution. Issues of concern will be run past APD legal office to ensure there would be no problems.

A major goal this year as part of the Support Plan for Area 13 FCC was decided, based on the following scenario: Stephanie suggested that FCC identify agencies and organizations for natural supports in a specific County. FCC would hold 1 meeting a year in each County from areas of transition, interagency etc. and tie in the resources in that County. Consideration to be given as well to holding a regularly scheduled meeting 1-2 times a year, in a particular county other than the Wildwood office. To be followed up on at future meetings. Another suggestion to be followed up on with Central office is how payment might be made for transporting individuals to FCC meetings who might want to join. Betty Kay will check on adding FCC to the resource page of Wrights Law group as suggested by Anna.

Betty Kay said that Isabel also wanted to be sure business cards would be available for upcoming events. It will be explored as to the possibility for Shawn to provide cards through his business.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm. The next FCC meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2011 at the APD office from 10:00 am–12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kay Clements
Area 13 FCC Secretary

Area 13 FCC Mission:

**To Promote the Welfare & Dignity of the
Individual with a Developmental Disability,
Allowing Each Person to Achieve
His/Her Full Potential, while Preserving the
Family's Ability to Function As A Unit**